

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

DEAE-00 JUSE-00 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 OES-05 OMB-01

AID-05 EB-07 AGR-10 IGA-01 /112 W

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R 241458Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8080

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 1542

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU, UN

SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE OF UN OFFICIAL'S STATEMENT

REF: A) STATE 39804; B) ANKARA 1454

THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE  
DAILY MILLIYET FEBRUARY 19 REGARDING A STATEMENT ISSUED IN  
GENEVA BY SERGE SOTIROFF OF THE UN DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.

BEGIN TEXT:

UN DOES NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE IN DANGER CONCERNING  
THE OPIUM ORIGINATING IN TURKEY

UN OFFICIALS STATED THAT THE NEW METHOD TO BE IMPOSED BY  
TURKEY WILL NOT RPT NOT PERMIT ILLEGAL TRAFFIC EVEN IN SMALL  
SCALE.

SOTIROFF SAID: "SMUGGLING IS TAKING PLACE EVERYWHERE; WE  
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CAN'T PUT THE BLAME ON TURKEY ALONE..."

GENEVA (SALIH BINGOL REPORTING) - UN NARCOTICS DIVISION  
SECRETARY GENERAL SERGE SOTIROFF, ANSWERING A QUESTION IN A  
PRESS CONFERENCE, IN CONNECTION WITH REPORTS APPEARING IN THE  
WASHINGTON POST AND HEARLD TRIBUNE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE RATIO  
OF TURKISH ORIGIN HEROIN DOES NOT RPT NOT CONSTITUTE 80 PERCENT  
OF ALL NARCOTIC DRUGS ENTERING THE UNITED STATES, AS CLAIMED, BUT  
ONLY THREE PERCENT, SAID THE FOLLOWING: "IT WILL BE INACCURATE TO  
DELIBERATE ON THE PERCENTAGE OF THE CLAIMS. SOMETIMES, WHAT IS  
SAID AND CLAIMED, MAY BE BASED ON INACCURATE INFORMATION, ON  
SUPPOSITIONS OR OTHER REASONS. AS A RESPONSIBLE ORGAN OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS AND BASED ON THE VIEWS OF ITS EXPERTS, WE WOULD  
LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT UNDER THE NEW METHOD OF OPIUM PRODUCTION  
WHICH WILL BE APPLIED IN TURKEY, THERE IS NO RPT NO POSSIBILITY  
IT WILL OPEN THE WAY (TO A LARGE EXTENT OR EVEN TO A SMALL  
EXTENT) FOR SMUGGLING AND ILLICIT USE OF NARCOTIC ORIGINATING  
IN TURKEY." SOTIROFF, BASING THIS OPINION ON THE IMPOSITION OF  
THE STRAW PROCESS BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, EXPLAINED THE  
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PRODUCTION OF OPIUM THROUGH THE INCISION  
METHOD AND THE NEW PROCESS, TO MORE THAN 50 PRESS, RADIO AND  
TELEVISION CORRESPONDENTS AND STATED THE FOLLOWING: "SMUGGLING  
AND ABUSE ARE TAKING PLACE EVERYWHERE. VARIOUS NARCOTIC  
DRUGS MAY ENTER THE UNITED STATES, PASSING THROUGH TURKEY  
OR FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. WE CANNOT PUT THE ENTIRE BLAME ON  
TURKEY. HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE ILLICIT PRODUCTION TURKEY.  
IN THIS CASE, THE SUBJECT OF ILLICIT NARCOTIC DRUGS OF TURKISH  
ORIGIN WILL COME UP. OUR VIEW AND OPINION ON THIS SUBJECT,  
HOWEVER, AS WELL AS THE CONCLUSION REACHED AFTER THE VISIT OF A  
UN DELEGATION (WHICH INCLUDED AN AMERICAN NARCOTICS EXPERT)  
TO TURKEY THE WEEK BEFORE LAST, INDICATE THAT TURKEY WILL BE STRICT  
IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW METHOD AND THAT THE IMPLEMEN-  
TATION AND THE SUPERVISION OF THE NEW METHOD WILL BE EASY. CON-  
SEQUENTLY, I CANNOT ATTACH ANY POSSIBILITY, LOGICALLY, TO A DANGER  
ORIGINATING IN TURKEY." SOTIROFF ALSO GAVE INFORMATION ON THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ALKALOID FACTORY WHICH WILL PROCESS THE  
OPIUM POPPY CAPSULES TO EXTRACT OPIUM THROUGH A CHEMICAL PROCESS  
AND SAID THAT THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR COMPLEMENTING THE  
NEW METHOD. THE DIVISION DIRECTOR GENERAL, ALSO STATED THAT  
WIDE EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE FOR SUBSTITUTE CROP CULTIVATION IN  
SEVERAL ASIAN COUNTRIES ENGAGED IN OPIUM POPPY GROWING. ON  
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THE OTHER HAND, THE UN NARCOTIC DRUGS COMMITTEE WILL MEET  
MONDY TO BEGIN A TWO-WEEK DELIBERATION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS PROBLEMS  
AND THE RESUMPTION OF OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION IN TURKEY. END TEXT.  
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